Foreign Visits by Secretaries of Various Ministries of the Government of India

347. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of visits made by Secretaries of various Ministries of the Government of India during the past 3 years along with the names of the countries visited by them.

(b) the number of other officers who accompanied these secretaries during these visits; and

(c) the total expenditure incurred on this account, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (c) The information is not centrally available and will have to be collected from all the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India. Collection of this information will involve considerable time and labour and the results to be achieved will not be commensurate with the time and labour involved in collecting the information.

Financial Agreements between India and Foreign Countries

348. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any financial agreements have recently been signed between India and Canada, India and Japan and between India and West Germany;

(b) if so what amount of financial aid is being provided to India by these countries under these agreements; and

(c) what are the items on the purchase of which the aid provided by these countries will be utilised by India and what are the terms and conditions in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (c) For the year 1989-90, the Government of Japan have extended OECF LOAN ASSISTANCE of Yen 96,710 million (approximately Rs. 1141 crores) and grant assistance of Yen 2,188 million (approximately Rs. 26 crores). The loan assistance is repayable over a period of 30 years, including a grace period of 10 years, and carries an interest rate of 2.5 per cent per annum. Details of the assistance, project-wise are indicated in Statement-I (*See* below).

In the year 1989-90, one agreement for grant assistance of Canadian $ 3 million has been signed with Canada for provision of technical assistance and software, for the Institutional Support Project to be implemented by the National Informatics Centre.

For the year 1989-90, DM 440 million (approximately Rs. 420 crores) of financial assistance would be provided by the Federal Republic of Germany for import of goods, services and equipment and for local cost projects to be mutually agreed upon from time to time for different projects in India. Out of this, DM 95 million is provided as grants and the balance of DM 345 million as soft loan with an interest rate of 0.75 per cent per annum. The loan is repayable over 40 years, inclusive of a grace period of 10 years. Details of project-wise assistance are indicated in Statement-II.